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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

ANNUAL REPORT

of the health of

WARE RURAL DISTRICT

Report presented by

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Dr. Didsbury | C.407 |
| 2. Mr. Morley Parry | A.419 |
| 3. Mr. Perry | A.405 |
| 4. Miss Pidgeon | A.408 |

AUGUST 1966

97 NEW ROAD
WARE

WARE RURAL DISTRICT

Annual Report on the Health of the District
for the year 1965

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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS
REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1965

W A R E R U R A L D I S T R I C T

PREFACE

To the Chairman and Councillors, Ware Rural District.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the health of the Rural District of Ware for the year ending 31st December, 1965.

Once again there has been an increase in the population figures, this increase being 170 as compared with 130 last year, giving a total of 12,590 for 1965.

Apart from a certain number of cases of food poisoning, the majority of which were contracted outside the District, and of Infective Hepatitis, which is a notifiable disease in certain parts of the United Kingdom, the health of the population has again been good, especially when it is seen that out of the total number of deaths, 145 in all, 90 occurred over the age of 70. The number of live births rose from 166 to 182 and the still births fell from 7 to 4.

In a country district, where about 130 properties are served by private water supplies, it is essential that bacteriological supervision is maintained and that advice is given where samples do not come up to standard.

The sewerage scheme undertaken jointly with Braughing Rural District Council has made progress throughout the year, though some difficulties were occasioned by bad weather. However, it is hoped that the scheme will be finished by the autumn of 1966.

The Council unfortunately lost the services of Mr. D.O. Knight, who left in November to take up an appointment with the Bristol Avon River Board. I wish him well in his new post. He was replaced by Mr. T.E. Parry, who came to us from the London Borough of Brent, and who, I trust, will find the work of a Rural District an agreeable change from London.

I wish once again to record my gratitude to the Chairman and the Council for their interest in all matters relating to the health of the community and to the other Chief Officers for their ready assistance.

My thanks are also due to Mr. Goold, Mr. Bower and Mr. Knight for their unfailing support and to Mr. Bower for preparing the statistical data.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

GORDON M. FRIZELLE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Gordon M. Frizelle, T.D., M.D., D.P.H., Certificate in Radiological Protection.

Central Office: Council Offices,
High Street,
Hoddesdon, Herts.

Telephone: Office - Hoddesdon 63061
Private - Ware 2746

Deputy (Part-Time) Medical Officer of Health

Peter de Bec Turtle, V.R.D., M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.
Haileybury and Imperial Service College.
Telephone: Hoddesdon 62040

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Senior Public Health Inspector (and Surveyor) A.D.G. GOOLD

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J. Board.
Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.
Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

J.G. BOWER - M.A.P.H.I. and Certificate for Meat and Food Inspection.
National Building Diploma.

D.O. KNIGHT - M.A.P.H.I. and Certificate for Meat and Food Inspection.
(Until November 1965) Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.
Diploma in Public Health and Hygiene.

T.E. PARRY - M.A.P.H.I. and Certificate for Meat and Food Inspection. B.A. Degree, University of Wales. Honours Certificate in General Hygiene.
(From December 1965) Liverpool School of Hygiene Certificate in Meat and Other Foods.
Certificate of the Royal Society of Health and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.
Certificate of the Royal Society of Health for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF
(Continued)

Rural District Council Offices,
97, New Road,
Ware, Herts.
Telephone: WARE 2292/3/4.

Clerical duties in the Public Health Department were undertaken by Miss D. Turner, Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

During the Session 1965/6 Public Health matters were dealt with by the Council under the Chairmanship of Councillor Mr. C.A. Spence.

S E C T I O N A
GENERAL STATISTICS 1965

Table 1

(Figures for 1964 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Ware Rural District

12,590 (12,420)

Natural Increase or decrease	+ 37
Migration in or out	+ 133

GENERAL STATISTICS

<u>Area in Acres</u>	29,060
----------------------	--------

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books

3,693 (3,626)

Number of Houses per acre	0.12
Number of Persons per acre	0.43
Number of Persons per house	3.4

<u>Rateable Value of District</u>	£548,182	*
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<u>Estimated Sum Represented by a Penny Rate</u>	£2,080
--	--------

* As at 1st April, 1966.

VITAL STATISTICS 1965

Table 2

(Figures for 1964 are shown in brackets)

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	Total 182	(166)
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	14.45	(13.37)
Area Comparability Factor for Births	1.18	(1.01)
Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	17.05	(13.50)

<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>	Total 4	(7)
Still-Births rate per 1,000 live and still births	21.50	(40.55)

BIRTHS

Total Live and Still-Births	186	(173)
-----------------------------	-----	-------

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births Total Number	88	94	182
Legitimate	84	91	175
Illegitimate	4	3	7
Still Births Total Number	3	1	4
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	3.85	(4.22)
---	------	--------

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Ware Rural District</u>	<u>Hertford County</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Live Birth Rate	14.45	18.10	18.0
Area Comparability Factor	1.18	0.94	-
Standardised Birth Rate	17.05	16.29	-
Still Birth Rate	21.50	13.17	15.7

VITAL STATISTICS
Table 2(continued)

INFANT DEATHS

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Infants under one year	Total	-	1	1
	Legitimate	-	1	1
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
Neo-Natal Mortality (first four weeks included above in total of infant deaths of under one year)	Total	-	1	1
	Legitimate	-	1	1
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	Total	5.49	(18.07)	
	Legitimate	5.49	(18.07)	
	Illegitimate	-	-	
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (first four weeks)		5.49	(12.04)	

MATERNAL DEATHS

Maternal Deaths, including abortion	-
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births	-

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Ware Rural District</u>	<u>Hertford County</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Infant Mortality Rate	5.49	15.71	19.0
Legitimate	5.49	15.86	20.0
Illegitimate	-	13.24	-
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	5.49	11.93	13.8
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	5.49	10.26	-
Perinatal Mortality Rate	26.88	23.31	26.9
Maternal Mortality Rate	-	0.19	0.25

VITAL STATISTICS
Table 2 (continued)

DEATHS

Total Deaths of all ages	145	(137)
Males	75	(74)
Females	70	(63)
Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.51	(11.03)
Area Comparability Factor for Deaths	0.98	(1.01)
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population.	11.28	(11.14)

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Ware Rural</u> <u>District</u>	<u>Hertford</u> <u>County</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
Death Rate	11.51	9.07	11.50
Area Comparability Factor	0.98	1.12	-
Standardised Death Rate	11.28	10.16	-

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified
during the year)

Disease	Total all Ages	Age Groups in Years					
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65
Measles	173	2	75	91	1	4	-
Whooping Cough	7	-	3	4	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	12	-	-	7	4	1	-
Food Poisoning	23	-	-	23	-	-	-
Bacillary Dysentery	1	-	-	1	-	-	-

Incidence of Diseases during the different months

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Month and number of cases</u>
Measles	January (13), February (31), March (53), April (8), May (26), June (4), July (17), August (21).
Whooping Cough	October (3), November (1), December (3).
Scarlet Fever	February (1), November (1).
Infective Hepatitis	May (4), June (2), July (5), December (1).
Food Poisoning	June (19), July (4).
Bacillary Dysentery	July (1).

DISTRIBUTION OF DISEASES AMONGST THE DIFFERENT PARISHES

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>DISEASE</u>
Great Amwell	Measles (13), Scarlet Fever (1), Whooping Cough (3).
Little Munden	Measles (26), Scarlet Fever (1), Food Poisoning (2).
Great Munden	Measles (6).
Hunsdon	Measles (37), Whooping Cough (3).
Stanstead Abbots & St. Margarets	Measles (2), Food Poisoning (19), Tuberculosis (1), Bacillary Dysentery (1), Infective Hepatitis (11).
Standon	Measles (43), Infective Hepatitis (1), Tuberculosis (1).
Thundridge	Measles (39)
Ware Rural	Measles (2), Tuberculosis (1), Food Poisoning (2).
Eastwick and Gilston	Measles (4)
Widford	Measles (1), Whooping Cough (1).

TUBERCULOSIS

The following is a summary of Tuberculosis Notifications etc. during 1965.

The year commenced with 68 cases on the register.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Males	40	2
Females	22	4

Three new cases were notified for the first time

Males	2	-
Females	1	-

There were three inward transfers from another area

Males	2	-
Females	-	1

One patient left the District

Males	1	-
Females	-	-

The year ended with 73 cases on the register

Males	43	2
Females	23	5

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1965

<u>Line No.</u>		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
	ALL CAUSES	75	70
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0
2.	Tuberculosis, other	0	0
3.	Syphilitic disease	1	3
4.	Diphtheria	0	0
5.	Whooping Cough	0	0
6.	Meningoccal infections	0	0
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0
8.	Measles	0	0
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	4
11.	" " , lung, bronchus	8	1
12.	" " , breast	1	4
13.	" " , uterus	0	4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	3
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	0
16.	Diabetes	1	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	11
18.	Coronary disease, angina	16	13
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	3	0
20.	Other heart disease	6	5
21.	Other circulatory disease	2	6
22.	Influenza	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	4	1
24.	Bronchitis	8	2
25.	Other disease of respiratory system	1	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	0
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	0	0
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0
31.	Congenital malformations	0	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	6
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	0	1
34.	All other accidents	0	0
35.	Suicide	0	0
36.	Homicide and operations of war	0	0

GENERAL STATISTICS

The year 1965 showed a continued increase in the population growth. The mid-year figure was 12,590 as compared with 12,420 in 1964, an increase of 170, made up of an inward migration of 133 and a natural increase of 37. The number of inhabited houses rose from 3626 to 3693.

VITAL STATISTICS

The number of live births rose from 166 to 182, giving a live birth rate per 1,000 population of 14.45 as compared with 13.37 in 1964. The still births fell from 7 to 4. Deaths in infants under 1 year of age fell from 3 to 1, thus considerably reducing the infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births. Once again there were no maternal deaths. Deaths at all ages increased from 137 to 145, which is only to be expected in a rising population.

CAUSES OF DEATH

Once again all forms of heart disease accounted for the majority of deaths, these numbering 51 (50 the previous year), or 35 per cent of all deaths. 29 of these 51 deaths, or 57 per cent, being due to Coronary disease. Of these, 17 were over the age of 75.

Malignant disease was responsible for the second highest total of deaths, this being 37, or 25 per cent of all deaths. Of these, 9 were due to malignant disease of the lung, 2 of which occurred in the 45 - 54 age group.

The third commonest cause of death was Vascular lesions of the nervous system, which numbered 17, or 12 per cent, closely followed by bronchitis, with 10 deaths, or 7 per cent.

There was a gratifying reduction in the deaths due to accidental causes, there being only 1 caused by a motor accident. There were no suicides.

It is unusual to find 4 deaths attributable to Syphilitic disease, though these naturally occurred in the later stages of life, 2 being in the 55 - 64 age group, and 1 over the age of 75.

The 1 death in an infant under 1 year of age was due to a Congenital Malformation.

Deaths over the age of 70 are given below in age groups:-

70 - 79

42

80 - 89

41

90 - 99

7

The total number of deaths over the age of 70 has, therefore, risen from 70 in 1964 to 90 in 1965. This, out of a total of 145, gives a very satisfactory percentage of 62.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There was a mild outbreak of Measles, totalling 173 cases, the majority of which occurred during the first half of the year.

In June a party of 27 school children and 2 teachers from a local school visited the West Country for a holiday. Following their return a number of them suffered from diarrhoea and vomiting, but the symptoms on the whole were slight and cleared up quickly. Investigation revealed that 19 suffered from a Salmonella Typhimurium infection and as the probable source of infection was the hostel at which they had stayed, the Medical Officer of Health of the area was informed accordingly. In three instances relatives of the children were food handlers and specimens were taken from these adults, but with negative results. Four other cases, not directly related to the previous 19, occurred in July.

Infective Hepatitis is a viral infection giving rise to Jaundice. It is often associated with poor food hygiene and occasionally with suspect water supplies, but it is very difficult to pinpoint the origin. It can be spread by contacts, both by droplet and by faecal contamination. In May, four cases were found in a Children's Home, two in staff and two in children. Eight other cases were notified during the year from other parts of the District.

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year the number of cases of Tuberculosis rose from 68 to 73, due to the discovery of 3 new cases and 3 inward transfers, while 1 patient left the District. Of these 73, 66 were pulmonary and 7 non-pulmonary.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 & 1951

No action was necessary in 1965 under Section 47 of these Acts.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The W.V.S. carries out a widespread Meals on Wheels Service throughout the District and there follow details of the number of

days operated each week and the number of persons served:-

<u>Area Served</u>	<u>Days per Week</u>	<u>Number of persons served</u>
Dane End	2	4
Eastwick & Gilston	2	11
Thundridge & High Cross	. 2	10
Great Amwell (including Stanstead Abbots)	3	18
Widford	2	4
Standon & Puckeridge	2	7
Hunsdon	2	6

BUILDING

During 1965 the Council built 10 flats, and 80 houses were constructed by private enterprise.

PUBLICATIONS

Ageing and Some Associated Problems.	Journal of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene
Ionising Radiation and the Family Doctor.	Medical News
Editorial	Journal of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene
Editorial	Journal of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene

S E C T I O N B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES FOR WARE RURAL DISTRICT.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In emergency, certain (Medical) specimens can be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

The following County Council Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946, are available for Ware Rural District Council. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres.

Number of Nurses - 5. Welfare Centres - 6
(including 1 Mobile Clinic)

Vaccinations, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough & Poliomyelitis Immunisations.

A Medical Officer at the Welfare Centre will vaccinate or immunise babies at the request of parents. Family Doctors will also provide this prophylaxis free of charge.

Home and Domestic Help

Applications for this service should be addressed to the Local Organiser at 27, Bull Plain, Hertford (Telephone: Hertford 3232).

Care and After Care

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. A Medical Loan Depot has been established in the Town. Address available at Council Offices. A charge may be made for both the above Services.

Ambulance Service

There are Ambulance Stations at Hertford (Tel: Hertford 3013), Bishop's Stortford (Tel: Bishop's Stortford 1101), Ware (Tel: Ware 2141). Except in emergency an Ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

Mental Health Services

Divisional Welfare and Mental Health Field staff, entitled a Social Work Unit, is being established at:-

1, Queens Road, Hertford. (Tel: 3145 and 5875)

(moved from Collett Road, Ware)

Miss H.M. Watson (Social Worker - Mental Health)

Mrs. P. Page " "

Mrs. S.M. Elford " "

Mrs. J.M. Wright * " "

Miss S.R. West - " "

Mrs. M. Lucas - " "

* Also at Sub-Office, Health Centre, Rye Park, Hoddesdon
(Tel: 65410)

- Also at Sub-Office, " " Market Square,
Bishop's Stortford (Tel: B.S.2743)

MR. R.C. LINGHAM, DIVISIONAL WELFARE OFFICER

MR. K.R. COCKMAN, ASSISTANT D.W.O.

For Compulsory Removals to Hospital under the Mental Health Act, in the East Herts. Area, from April 1966:-

During Office hours:- please telephone the Social Work Unit
(Hertford 3145 and 5875)

Outside office hours:- the present arrangements remain
unchanged, i.e.

Home Telephone numbers - Mr. R.C. Lingham, Hatfield 4151

Mr. K.R. Cockman, Hoddesdon 62542

and if no reply obtainable, ring the Hertford Ambulance
Control (Hertford 2222)

Premises at Collett Road, Ware, vacated by the D.W.O.
occupied by: Miss D. Taylor (Social Worker - Blind) Tel: Ware 2541
Miss P.M. Watson (" " - Physically Handicapped.)

HOSPITAL SERVICES

The area is served by the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford, and the Herts and Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

Chronic sick can receive hospital treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware.

Western House also provides beds under Part III of the National Assistant Act, 1948, on behalf of the County Council.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES

Six doctors practise in Ware Rural District.

There are no Dental Surgeons in the District but the area is served by Dental Surgeons at Hertford, Hoddesdon, Ware, Buntingford and Bishop's Stortford.

OTHER SERVICES

There is an Old People's Welfare Committee at Standon and Puckeridge; also an independently managed "Welcome Club" with a membership of 120 persons.

Women's Institutes are active at ten centres in the District.

S E C T I O N C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA - REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1965

WATER SUPPLY

Two parishes in the southern extremity of the District, Great Amwell and Stanstead St. Margarets, are within the Statutory area of the Metropolitan Water Board and supplied by them with a public supply of water. The source is the Rye Common Pumping Station and there is a reservoir at Hertford Heath. The water is subject to filtration and chlorination. It is hard chalk water.

The remainder of the Rural District is supplied by the Lee Valley Water Company. The source of the Lee Valley Water Company's supply is a pumping station at Standon where there are two boreholes in the chalk. The water is pumped into supply after chlorination. A water tower at Old Hall Green acts as a balancing reservoir.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY

Within the District there are approximately 130 properties being served by a private water supply.

Routine sampling has continued throughout the year, and in most cases the bacteriological quality has been found to be satisfactory.

In instances where the source of the supply has been suspect, occupants have been advised to boil all water before use.

Quality of Water

Bacteriological

In addition to samples submitted by the Public Health Department for analysis, the Lee Valley Water Company send monthly reports of bacteriological sampling to this Council. Every result sent by the Company has been satisfactory.

Quantity of Water

Where main supplies are available, the water pressure throughout the District has been satisfactory and constant.

Distribution of Water Services

Dwellinghouses supplied by public water mains in 1965:-

Parish	Number of houses	Popula- tion (approx)	Main direct to house	Main to stand- pipes
Eastwick	64	170	56	8
Gilston	64	227	64	-
Great Amwell	734	2636	730	4
Great Munden	110	435	82	13
Hunsdon	378	1193	364	3
Little Munden	191	599	186	4
St. Margarets	70	252	64	-
Standon	951	3174	918	10
Stanstead Abbots	485	1608	457	6
Thundridge	267	826	246	6
Ware Rural	241	1032	205	9
Widford	138	438	123	15
TOTAL	3693	12590	3495	78

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Standon and Puckeridge

These two villages provide a common drainage area and sewers have been laid to a point in Paper Mill Lane, Standon, from which the sewage is raised to a Sewage Disposal Works south of the village. These works consist of a receiving chamber, balancing tank, sedimentation tank and duplicate rotary percolating filters, followed by humus tanks.

Colliers End

It is hoped that a scheme for sewerage the Colliers End area will be prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers in 1966. Disposal will be at the Standon Sewage Works.

High Cross and Wadesmill

These two villages which are at the southern end of the Standon parish are drained to a pumping station at Wadesmill from which sewage is raised to join the Ware Urban District Council sewers at the Urban District boundary on the main Cambridge Road. The sewage is ultimately disposed of at Rye Meads.

Great Amwell and St. Margarets

Great Amwell parish may be divided for drainage purposes into four areas.

- (1) Hertford Heath, which is drained through an outfall (which is a joint responsibility of the Ware and Hertford Rural District Councils) to the Hertford Borough disposal works at Hertford.
- (2) The Haileybury College area which is drained by means of a main sewer to the sewers of the Hoddesdon Urban District Council and eventually disposed of by them to Rye Meads. Some properties in Hoddesdon Urban District make use of this outfall.
- (3) The southern portion of Great Amwell village, which includes what is known as the Gypsy Lane area and the old Mylne Estate. This is drained on each side of a water shed to ultimately join at the St. Margarets pumping station from whence the sewage is pumped into the Middle Lee Trunk Sewer and the sewage disposed of at Rye Meads. Properties in Hoddesdon Urban District are drained to this system in the Stanstead Road and St. Margarets Road areas.
- (4) The northern portion of the village is drained to a pumping station discharging to St. Margarets pumping station and ultimately to Rye Meads.

Stanstead Abbots

This village is drained to a point in Accommodation Road where the Council once had a pumping station and connected directly to the Middle Lee Trunk Sewer. Sewage is disposed of at Rye Meads.

Hunsdon

The village is drained to a pumping station near Bonningtons. From there the sewage is pumped on into Stanstead Abbots and connected to the Middle Lee Trunk Sewer, the outfall being the Rye Meads Sewage Works.

Eastwick

This village is drained to the Stort Valley sewer discharging to Rye Meads sewage disposal scheme.

Gilston

This village is sewered in conjunction with Eastwick, and is connected to Rye Meads.

Dane End

The village of Dane End in the parish of Little Munden has been sewered and sewage disposal works constructed in the village.

Haultwick

A scheme had been prepared to connect the drainage of Haultwick to the Dane End works via Green End but further developments in Dane End will necessitate a revision of the scheme.

Widford & Wareside

A scheme to drain these two villages in conjunction with Much Hadham in the Braughing Rural District commenced in 1964 and is scheduled to be completed in 1966.

Connections

The number of properties connected to the main sewers during the year was 105.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Cesspools

The Council have continued their policy to discourage the construction of small water-tight cesspools and encourage the construction of septic tanks with either filters or land irrigation. There are few conventional type cesspools as far as is known, although many old cesspools used as septic tanks are in need of improvement. The making of improvement grants has helped to improve the drainage of many houses and has provided modern type septic tanks. All new houses built where main drainage is not available must have well designed septic tanks.

The Council remove sludge from septic tanks once a year by means of their two cesspool emptying vehicles. The work is done to a definite time table and all occupiers of premises know to within a week when the tank will be de-sludged. Tanks which are too small or otherwise inadequate to deal with the drainage of the premises and need to be emptied more frequently are dealt with under contract to the owner or by means of a request to the Council. One emptying per year allowed free of charge by the Council is carried out in rotation according to the timetable.

Any emptying taken out of turn extra to the annual emptying has to be paid for on the scale of charges in force at the time. At the moment the charge is £3 per load of approximately 1,000 gallons, with a minimum charge of £3. 0. 0. Cesspools or septic tanks which are in the vicinity of public sewers and lie within the area shown on the Council's resolution map are not emptied free of charge at any time.

Pail Closets

By the end of 1966, it was hoped that the sewerage schemes to Widford, Wareside, Haultwick, Green End and Colliers End would be completed, and with this in mind the Council, early in 1965, passed a resolution to terminate their pail collection service as from 31st December, 1966. It now appears, however, that the schemes for Haultwick/Green End and Colliers End will be slightly delayed.

Until this date, however, the Council are continuing to empty pails throughout the whole district. They are emptied free of charge in an area lying outside the prescribed areas which are in the proximity of existing public sewers. The owners or occupiers of premises within these prescribed areas who require this service have to make a request and pay £2.10. 0. per quarter for the emptying of one pail twice per week, this charge being to encourage property owners to convert their pail closets to water closets.

During the year the number of pail closets in the district has been reduced from 270 to approximately 230, this being due to the fact that more people have taken advantage of the improvement grant schemes.

Necessary advice and encouragement regarding improvement grants has continued to be given, and it is anticipated that the number of houses with pail closets will reduce considerably in 1966.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Refuse is collected weekly throughout the district. One side-loading vehicle of 12 cubic yards capacity and a Dennis Paxit are used with a second side loader in reserve.

The refuse is disposed of at a central tip near Downfield Farm, Ware. One man is employed approximately four days per week on the tip and uses a Weatherill shovel for the purpose of rolling and covering the refuse. There have been no fires on the tip and appropriate action has been taken in order to avoid nuisances arising from infestation by vermin, flies and crickets.

A resolution under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, prescribing the size and capacity of dustbins and approving the British Standard Dustbin has been passed by the Council and there is a Byelaw in force prohibiting the deposit of liquid matter in dustbins.

The Council undertake the collection of bulky articles of household refuse (mattresses, arm chairs, etc.) on request, free of charge.

PARTICULARS OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS'
VISITS DURING THE YEAR 1965

Housing	513	Total brought forward	1342
Complaints	151	Slaughterhouses	598
Drainage	109	Food Premises	118
Water Supply	93	Rats and Mice	124
Refuse Tips	114	Licensed Premises	34
Caravans	65	Petrol Installations	112
Factories	24	Animal Boarding	6
Infectious Diseases	81	Establishments	
Clean Air Act	89	Disinfestation	20
Offices, Shops &		Closet conversion	97
Railway Premises	98	Food Poisoning	188
Music and Dancing		Refuse Disposal	39
Licensing	1	Immigrants	15
Knacker's Yard	4	Miscellaneous	90
Total carried forward	1342	TOTAL	2783

HOUSING ACTS 1936 TO 1954

New Housing by private enterprise

New dwellings erected - 80

Conversion or adaptations in
terms of family units - 2

By Local Authority

New dwellings erected - 10

Conversions or adaptations in
terms of family units - -

By Other Authorities

(County Council, Police, etc.) -

Total Properties controlled by the Council

Council Houses 1100

Temporary prefabricated
bungalows -

Sundries (including shops) -

Housing Repairs and Improvements

Under the Public Health and Housing Acts, the Council is empowered to require the repair, closure or demolition of certain properties, and also to assist financially in the improvement of property. Several houses were repaired by owners following informal action by the Council under the provision of the Public Health Act 1936.

Seven properties were considered to be unfit for human habitation, and following action under the Housing Act 1957, Closing or Demolition Orders were placed on three properties, and undertakings not to relet for habitation were accepted on behalf of the other four.

Thirty-seven properties were improved with the aid of improvement grants, a decrease of only two on the previous year.

The higher standard grants that are now available have certainly given added interest to the scheme and it can be expected that more people will be taking advantage of it in the near future.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

There are two slaughterhouses in the district, one at Colliers End and the other at Stanstead Abbots. The amount of slaughtering that has taken place indicates a decrease of approximately 9% compared with 1964.

During the year two cases of tuberculosis were found in cattle, and although both were localised conditions, it was the first time that this disease has been found for many years. In cases of this nature it is necessary to notify the Ministry of Agriculture in order that the necessary investigation can be made at the farm source.

Four beast carcasses were found infested with the parasite *Cysticercus Bovis* (the cause of the tapeworm *Taenia Saginata* in man) and following the procedure laid down in the Meat Inspection Regulations, the carcasses were placed in cold storage for the recommended period before being released for sale.

For the second successive year it was necessary to condemn large quantities of mutton following the emergency slaughter of small flocks of sheep attacked and savaged by dogs on local farms. This itself entailed the condemnation of 640 lbs. of meat.

	Cattle (excl. cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed during 1965	947	5	6	4656	1911
No. inspected during 1965	947	5	6	4656	1911
All diseases except Tubercu- losis and Cysticerci -					
Whole carcass condemned	-	-	3	8	-
Part carcass or organ condemned	68	1	-	53	58
Tuberculosis only -					
Whole carcass condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcass or organ condemned	2	-	-	-	11
Cysticercosis -					
Part carcass or organ condemned	4	-	-	-	-
Treated by refrigeration	4	-	-	-	-

Other Foods condemned

Canned Foodstuffs

Fruit

Nil

Meat

52 lbs.

Total weight of all foods condemned:-

19 cwt. 2 qtrs. 21 lbs.

Food Premises - Food Hygiene Regulations 1960

	Number	No. fitted to comply with Reg.16.	No. to which Reg.19 applies.	No. fitted to comply with Reg.19.
Bakehouses	2	2	2	2
Butchers	7	7	7	7
Grocers	25	25	25	25
Fishmongers	3	3	3	3
Cafés	6	6	6	6
Sweets and Confectionery	12	12	-	-
Canteens	21	21	21	21
Public Houses	44	44	44	44

Registered Food Premises

The following premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1935.

Ice Cream Premises	45
Manufacturers of Sausages and Preserved Foods	8

Food Hygiene Regulations

Food premises in the area were inspected from time to time throughout the year. Most premises were found to be satisfactory, although in two or three instances, regular visits at short intervals were necessary in order to ensure that a good standard of hygiene was maintained and that essential works were carried out.

One outbreak of food poisoning was recorded, involving a party of school children. This, however, was associated with a town in the West Country in which the party had stayed on holiday.

All appropriate information was forwarded to the Health authorities of the town concerned.

Caravan Sites (Control and Development) Act, 1960.

There are 12 sites licensed for the stationing of caravans in the area.

10 sites have individual caravans and 2 sites, The Duke of Wellington Public House, Barwick, and 24, High Street, Puckeridge, have 20 and 25 caravans respectively.

At Rye House there is a caravan site for winter quarters for members of the Showmen's Guild. This site is exempted from the licensing conditions of the Act but conditions regarding the standards of hygiene and sanitary arrangements are incorporated into the permission which has to be obtained under the Town and Country Planning Acts.

Informal action was taken by the Department to remove caravans from isolated sites in the area that had not been licensed by the Council.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963.

This Act requires that any premises used for boarding dogs or cats should be licensed with the Council and to comply with the conditions laid down in the licence to ensure that suitable accommodation is provided and to prevent spread of disease.

Three establishments were licensed with the Council, two for dogs and one for cats. Regular visits have been made; no action was required.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

The aim of this Act is to secure the health, safety and welfare of employees working in such places as shops, hairdressing establishments, canteens, cafés, private schools and petrol filling stations.

56 premises, on which 292 persons were employed, were registered with the Council and by the end of the year almost all of the premises had received an initial inspection under the Act.

Where contraventions have been found, advice has been given to the owner or occupier and in no case has it been necessary to take formal action.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent Control

The Council employ a part-time operator who is engaged on rodent control three mornings per week.

The Town and Country Pest Service at Royston are on contract to the Council to carry out control treatment at the refuse tip and Standon and Dane End Sewage Works. This firm is also employed by many farmers in the area.

The table below sets out the action taken by the Council during the year.

	Type of Property				Total
	Council Property	Dwelling houses	Agri-cultural	Business Premises	
No. of properties inspected	10	235	25	20	290
No. found to be infested by rats	4	225	10	20	259
No. seriously infested by rats	-	-	-	-	-
No. of properties released for infestations	4	225	10	20	259
No. of properties released for infestations	-	-	-	-	-

S E C T I O N D

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The following is a summary of information already supplied in detail to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised) in respect of the year 1965.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	48	20	2	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	9	4	-	-
Total	57	24	2	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

<u>Nature of Work</u>	<u>No. of Outworkers</u>
Wearing) apparel) Making etc.	5
Furniture and) upholstery)	1

